

SCHLEGELIA COSTARICENSIS:
A FAMILIAL TRANSFER TO BORAGINACEAE

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In a recently completed study of Central American Bignoniaceae (Gentry, 1972) it was noted that Schlegelia costaricensis Standl., known only from the type collection, has little apparent relationship with other species of the genus and should, in fact, be excluded from the Bignoniaceae. Although Williams (1970) would place Schlegelia itself in the Scrophulariaceae, S. costaricensis shows no more affinity with that family. It proves to belong, rather, in Bourreria of the Boraginaceae. I have compared the two known sheets of the type of S. costaricensis (Brenes 13570 (F, NY) from Cataratas de San Ramon, Costa Rica) with an isotype of B. panamensis (Wedel 2472 (MO)) and find them to be identical. Since Schlegelia costaricensis has priority over Bourreria panamensis, the new combination in the latter genus is unavoidable. Bourreria panamensis has sometimes been considered a variety of B. superba Johnston but the basionym in Schlegelia also has priority over that name.

Had Standley dissected the single flower present on the holotype specimen, he would have realized the impossibility of placing it in Schlegelia. Among other incongruities, its five stamens and bifid style apex are especially noticeable and even externally the alternate leaves, relatively deeply and acutely lobed calyx, and open, few-flowered inflorescence are discrepancy enough for rejection from Schlegelia. There is more superficial resemblance of this species to Markea megalandra (Dun.) D'Arcy of the Solanaceae and its allies than to Schlegelia; its confusion with that family might have been understood.

TAXONOMY

BOURRERIA COSTARICENSIS (Standl.) A. Gentry, comb. nov.
Schlegelia costaricensis Standl., Publ. Field Mus. Bot. 18:
1128. 1938.

Holotype: Costa Rica, Alajuela, Cataratas de San Ramon,
Brenes 13570 (F, isotype NY)

Bourreria superba var. glabra Schery, Ann. Missouri Bot.
Gard. 29: 366. 1942.

Type: Panamá, Bocas del Toro, Chiriquí Lagoon, Isla
Colón, Wedel 2472 (MO).

Bourreria panamensis I. M. Johnston, Jour. Arnold Arb. 29:
229. 1948.

Type: Panamá, Bocas del Toro, Chiriquí Lagoon, Isla
Colón, Wedel 2472 (MO).

LITERATURE CITED

Gentry, A. H. 1972. An eco-evolutionary study of the Big-
noniaceae of southern Central America. PhD thesis sub-
mitted to Washington University, St. Louis. xv + 769
pp.

Williams, L. O. 1970. An overlooked genus of the Scroph-
ulariaceae. Fieldiana: Botany 32: 211-214.